



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Plumas  
National  
Forest

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**File Code:** 1950/2350  
**Route To:** (Jane Beaulieu)

**Date:** November 28, 2011

**Subject:** NEPA Documentation for Proposed Forest Order

**To:** Files

The Organic Administration Act of 1891 gives the Forest Service authority to promulgate regulations relating to the occupancy and use of National Forest lands (16 USC 551). Title 36, Section 261, Subpart B of the Code of Federal Regulations authorizes each Forest Supervisor to issue orders that restrict the use of any National Forest System road within the area of their jurisdiction. Title 36, Sections 261.54(a) states, "When provided by an order, the following are prohibited: Using any type of vehicle prohibited by the order." Therefore, forests are able to manage the use of National Forest System roads for various uses and provide for the safety of the public.

Currently the Plumas National Forest has an extensive winter off-highway vehicle program that involves the grooming of a number of National Forest System roads for use by snowmobiles. Conflicts often arise when wheeled motor vehicles are driven on the groomed trails because the vehicles create ruts in the trail and damage the trail in and around the areas where they get stuck. Operators cause other resource damage when they attempt to get out, and create a hazard to snowmobilers. The damage that is left behind requires costly groomer and operator time to fix. In the past the Plumas National Forest OHV managers have determined that a Forest Order is necessary to provide for protection of natural resources and public safety during the winter season.

Therefore, I am issuing a Closure Order for the 2011/2012 season that prohibits the use of "a wheeled motor vehicle" on certain National Forest System roads on the Plumas National Forest. This Order will prohibit the use of all wheeled motor vehicles on these roads.

This action is categorically excluded from documentation in an environment assessment or an environmental impact statement pursuant to FSH 1909.15, Section 31.12, *(1) Order issued pursuant to 36 CFR 261 – Prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety.* There are no anticipated physical or biological impacts that can be foreseen as a result of the Order. Therefore, there are no extraordinary circumstances regarding the Order.

*/s/ Earl Ford*

EARL FORD  
Forest Supervisor



## **Order No. 11-11-19**

### **Plumas National Forest**

#### **National Forest System Roads**

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(b), and to provide for public safety and protect natural resources, the following act is prohibited within the Plumas National Forest. This Order is effective from December 15, 2011, through March 31, 2012. For the purposes of this Order, a wheelchair is not considered to be a motor vehicle.

Using a wheeled motor vehicle on the National Forest System roads listed below and shown on Exhibits A and B.

1. Feather River Ranger District (Exhibit A):

- a. Forest Road No. 21N05Y.
- b. Forest Road No. 21N15 (Lexington Hill Rd.) from its intersection with Plumas County Road No. 511A, then north to its intersection with Forest Road No. 21N16 (Mooreville Ridge Rd.).
- c. Forest Road No. 21N16 (Mooreville Ridge Rd.) from its intersection with Forest Road No. 21N15 (Lexington Hill Rd.), then northwest to its intersection with Forest Road No. 21N16D.
- d. Forest Road No. 21N16D.
- e. Forest Road No. 22N21 (Silver Tip Tie Rd.).
- f. Forest Road No. 22N24 from its intersection with Forest Road No. 22N94, then west to its intersection with Forest Road No. 22N25.
- g. Forest Road No. 22N25 from its intersection with Forest Road No. 22N24, then north to its intersection with Forest Road No. 22N81.
- h. Forest Road No. 22N27 (Lumpkin Ridge Rd.) from its intersection with Forest Road No. 22N56, then southwest to its intersection with Forest Road No. 22N24.
- i. Forest Road No. 22N56 from its intersection with Forest Road No. 22N27 (Lumpkin Ridge Rd.), then south to its intersection with Forest Road No. 22N57 (Lakeshore Rd.).
- j. Forest Road No. 22N57 (Lakeshore Rd.).
- k. Forest Road No. 22N60 (Silvertip Springs Rd.).
- l. Forest Road No. 22N68 from its intersection with Forest Road No. 22N60 (Silvertip Springs Rd.), then north to its intersection with Forest Road No. 22N57 (Lakeshore Rd.).
- m. Forest Road No. 22N94 from its intersection with Plumas County Road No. 514, then north to its intersection with Forest Road No. 22N24.
- n. Forest Road No. 23N24 from its intersection with Plumas County Road No. 511 (Oroville-La Porte Hwy.), then northwest to its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N60Y.

2. Mt. Hough and Feather River Ranger Districts (Exhibit B):

- a. Forest Road No. 23N15 (Gravel Range Rd.) from its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N18, then south to its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N58.
- b. Forest Road No. 23N18.
- c. Forest Road No. 23N19 from its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N60, then south to its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N55.
- d. Forest Road No. 23N54.
- e. Forest Road No. 23N55.
- f. Forest Road No. 23N58 from its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N15 (Gravel Range Rd.), then south to its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N70.
- g. Forest Road No. 23N60 from its intersection with Plumas County Road No. 423 (Big Creek Rd.), then south to its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N75.
- h. Forest Road No. 23N70 from its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N18, then south to its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N60.
- i. Forest Road No. 23N73Y.
- j. Forest Road No. 23N75 from its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N60, then southeast to its intersection with Forest Road No. 23N55.
- k. Forest Road No. 23N89.
- l. Forest Road No. 23N95Y.
- m. Forest Road No. 24N29Y (Lookout Rock Cutoff Rd.).
- n. Forest Road No. 24N33 from its intersection with Plumas County Road No. 414 (Oro-Quincy Hwy.), then north to its intersection with Forest Road No. 24N69X.
- o. Forest Road No. 24N34 from its intersection with Forest Road No. 24N33, then west to its intersection with Forest Road No. 24N36 (Lower Daniels Rd.).
- p. Forest Road No. 24N36 (Lower Daniels Rd.).

36 CFR 261.54(a).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

This prohibition is in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both.  
16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571, and 3581.






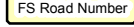
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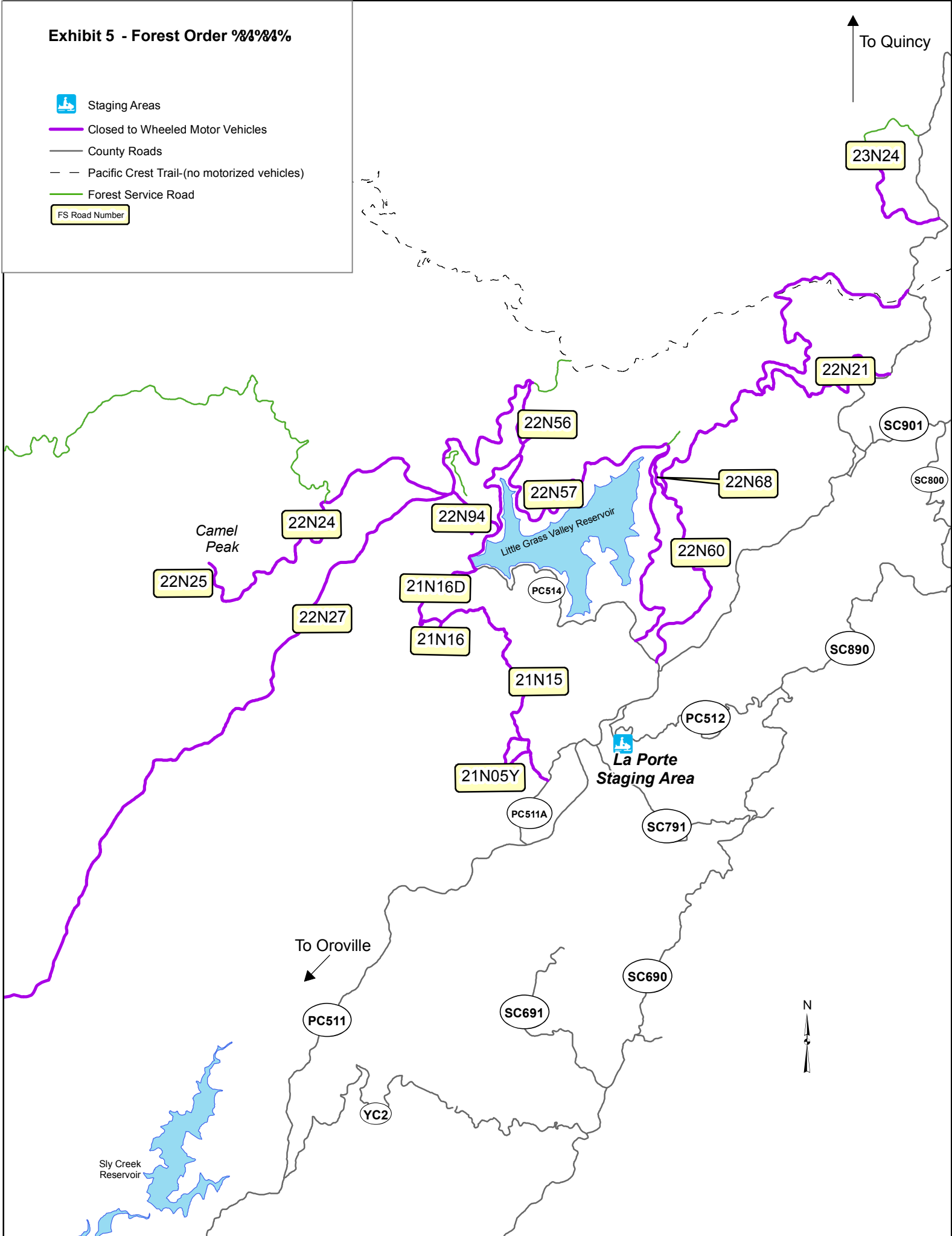
*/s/ Earl Ford*

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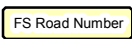
EARL FORD  
Forest Supervisor  
Plumas National Forest

Exhibit 5 - Forest Order %4%4%

-  Staging Areas
-  Closed to Wheeled Motor Vehicles
-  County Roads
-  Pacific Crest Trail-(no motorized vehicles)
-  Forest Service Road
-  FS Road Number



**Exhibit B - Forest Order 11-11-19**

-  Staging Areas
-  Closed to Wheeled Motor Vehicles
-  County Roads
-  Pacific Crest Trail (no motorized vehicles)
-  Forest Service Road
-  FS Road Number

